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10-23-03
PATENT APPLICATION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q63103

Kenji SOGA

Appln. No.: 09/778,904

Group Art Unit: 2661

Confirmation No. 5846

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: ROUTE DESIGN SYSTEM AND ROUTE DESIGN METHOD CAPABLE OF
REALIZING HIGH-SPEED ACCOMMODATION DESIGN

RECEIVED

OCT 20 2003

Technology Center 2600

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. World Patent No. 99/53719, published October 21, 1999.
2. GB Patent No. 2299729-A, published October 10, 1996.
3. EP Patent No. 0926922-A2, published June 30, 1999.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
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The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated July 22, 2003, and an English-language of the pertinent portions thereof, and a copy of the European Search Report dated August 5, 2003, which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent offices.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

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